

Ichthyophis (*C. glutinosa*) and *Epicrium* (*C. hypocyana*) at generic or subgeneric level, and perhaps even place them in different family-group taxa. Since *Epicrium* was suppressed in Opinion 1604 (June 1990; BZN 47: 166–167) on the mistaken assumption that it was a replacement name for *Ichthyophis*, and solely to dispose of the name EPICRIIDAE so as to conserve the relatively recent but widely accepted (see BZN 45: 208) family name ICHTHYOPHIIDAE, there are grounds for proposing that this generic name should be conserved. Prof Dubois has made the additional proposal that on grounds of priority EPICRIIDAE Fitzinger, 1843 should replace ICHTHYOPHIIDAE Taylor, 1968; this is contrary to the views of Wilkinson & Nussbaum (BZN 45: 207–209) and Smith (BZN 46: 134). The two proposals can be considered separately by the Commission. It may be noted again (see BZN 47: 166–167) that EPICRIIDAE Fitzinger is a senior homonym of the mite family name EPICRIIDAE Berlese, 1885.

The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers:
 - (a) to revoke the suppression of the generic name *Epicrium* Wagler, 1828;
 - (b) to rule that the family-group name ICHTHYOPHIIDAE Taylor, 1968 (type genus *Ichthyophis* Fitzinger, 1826) is to be given precedence over the name EPICRIIDAE Fitzinger, 1843 (type genus *Epicrium* Wagler, 1828) whenever the two names are considered to be synonyms;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology, and delete from the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology, the name *Epicrium* Wagler, 1828 (gender: neuter), type species by monotypy *Caecilia hypocyana* Boie, 1827;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the name *hypocyana* Boie, 1827, as published in the binomen *Caecilia hypocyana* (specific name of the type species of *Epicrium* Wagler, 1828);
- (4) to place on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) ICHTHYOPHIIDAE Taylor, 1968 (type genus *Ichthyophis* Fitzinger, 1826), with the endorsement that it is to be given precedence over the name EPICRIIDAE Fitzinger, 1843 (type genus *Epicrium* Wagler, 1828) whenever the two names are considered to be synonyms;
 - (b) EPICRIIDAE Fitzinger, 1843 (type genus *Epicrium* Wagler, 1828), with the endorsement that it is not to be given priority over the name ICHTHYOPHIIDAE Taylor, 1968 whenever the two names are considered to be synonyms.

Comments on the proposed conservation of the specific name of *Coccyzus euleri* Cabanis, 1873 (Aves, Cuculiformes)

(Case 2727; see BZN 47: 195–197)

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The authors, Drs E.O. Willis and Y. Oniki, of the application seeking to conserve the name *Coccyzus euleri* Cabanis, 1873 by the suppression of *C. julieni* Lawrence, 1864

have cited my work (Banks, 1988). It was this paper that led to the re-introduction of the latter name.

When I verified that the holotype of *C. julieni* is a representative of the South American species generally known by the name *C. euleri*, rather than the North American *C. americanus*, I was immediately aware of the nomenclatural implications because *julieni* predates *euleri*. The first draft of my manuscript was prepared treating *euleri* as the valid name and *julieni* as a nomen oblitum. Aware that such treatment might require formal action by the Commission (Articles 23b, 79c of the Code), I began to gather information to support a request that *julieni* be suppressed. However, I soon found that the name *julieni* had been used several times within the previous 50 years (as noted in Banks, 1988, pp. 90–91), and I believed that the facts would not support a request for suppression. I therefore revised the manuscript using *julieni* as the valid senior synonym. I still consider this action to be proper under the Code although I realize the inconvenience to South American ornithologists.

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Members of the Standing Committee on Ornithological Nomenclature (SCON) of the International Ornithological Congress have without exception supported the conservation of *Coccyzus euleri* Cabanis, 1873 and the suppression of *C. julieni* Lawrence, 1864, as requested by Willis & Oniki. They noted that the name *euleri* had been used by almost all workers publishing on the South American pearly-breasted cuckoo and that a change in the specific name for this species would only result in unnecessary instability and lack of universality. The name *julieni* had not been overlooked by avian systematists, but had been considered to refer to *Coccyzus americanus* and was usually placed in the synonymy of that species. Banks (1988) had provided a valuable service to ornithologists by determining the correct identification of the type specimen of *Coccyzus julieni*, but this service should not be negated by causing an unnecessary instability in nomenclature.

In their most recent supplement to the Check-list of North American Birds, the Check-list Committee of the American Ornithologists' Union stated (*Auk*, 106: 534) that 'the Committee would support a petition to the I.C.Z.N. for the retention of the familiar and more widely used name *E. euleri*'.

Therefore, the SCON supports strongly the three proposals on BZN 47: 196.

Comments on the proposed conservation of *Phororhacos* Ameghino, 1889 (Aves, Gruiformes)

(Case 2723; see BZN 47: 198–201)

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Chiappe & Soria propose to conserve the generic name *Phororhacos* Ameghino, 1889 over the senior spelling *Phorusrhacos* Ameghino, 1887, which was used in the combination *Phorusrhacos longissimus* Ameghino, 1887, new genus and species. Their